

Supporting Information

Community transmission of SARS-CoV-2 by Surfaces: Risks and Risk
Reduction Strategies

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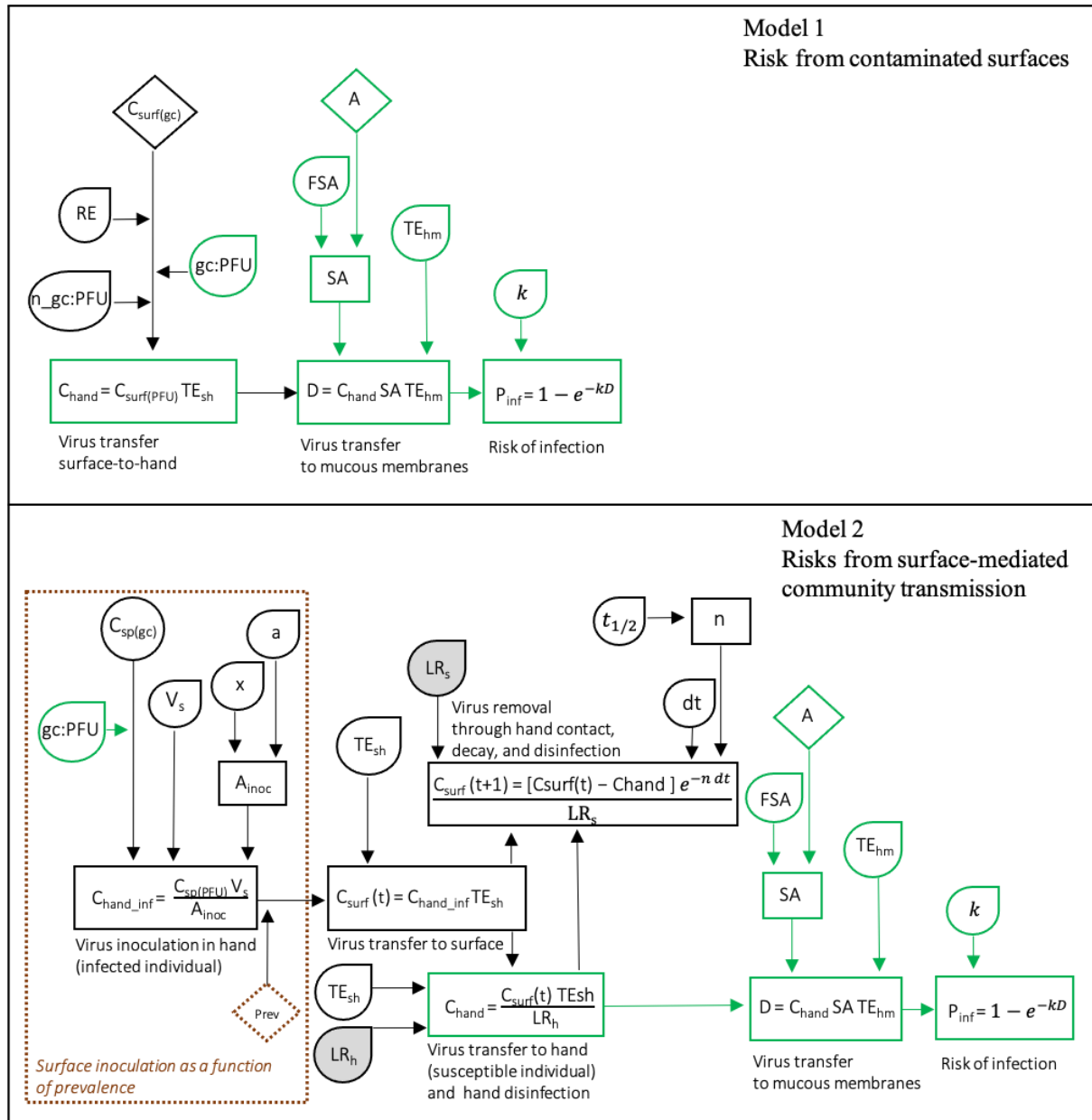


Figure S1. Diagram of the mathematical models used to estimate the risk from contaminated surfaces and the risk from surface-mediated community-transmission. Green rectangles represent shared equations or parameters between the risk model for contaminated surface and the risk model for surface-mediated community transmission. Within the dotted brown line we show the model used to calculate the surface contamination as a function of prevalence. Filled shapes represent the parameters only used in the intervention scenarios (log₁₀ reduction values). The descriptions of parameters' and inputs can be found in Table 1.

39 Table S1. Input parameters for the risk assessment model

Parameter	Units	Description	Distributions (Input values)/ Equations	Reference and comments
$C_{sp} (gc)$	Gene copies (gc) mL ⁻¹	Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 in sputum or saliva	ReSample (data set)	(1–4) RT-qPCR data on viral loads of 9, 2, 2, and 23 patients with COVID-19
$C_{surf} (gc)$	gc cm ⁻²	Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 in surfaces	Point values (102.4, 2.5, 11.6, 6.8, 1.2, 30, 39.3, 0.8, 0.8, 0.1)	(5, 6) RT-qPCR data on concentration of SARS-CoV-2 in surfaces found in public spaces
gc: PFU	unitless	Genome copies to infectious virus conversion factor. Used to convert the viral concentrations $C_{(gc)}$ to $C_{(PFU)}$	Uni (10 ² -10 ³)	(7, 8) Based on the ratio for influenza A(H1N1), A(H3N2), and influenza B and the ratio of TCID ₅₀ to PFU
n_{gc} : PFU	unitless	Ratio of gc decay to infective virus decay on surfaces	Uni (1-50)	(9) Informed by data on the persistence of influenza on surfaces.
RE	unitless	Recovery efficiency	Point value (0.6)	(6) Recovery efficiency from swabs
V_s	mL	Volume of saliva expelled per cough	Uni (0.0396 - 0.0484)	(10) Volume of 0.044mL (11) Assumed uniform distribution using volume \pm 10%
x	cm	Distance between hand and mouth	Uni (5-10)	Assumed
a	degrees	Right angle of cone	Uni (27.5-35)	Based on the images of people spreading particles while coughing(12, 13)
A_{inoc}	cm ²	Area of inoculation by cough	$A_{inoc} = \pi r^2$ $r = x \tan(a)$	(14) Calculated assuming viral particles spread conically (Supplementary Figure 1)
C_{hand_inf}	PFU cm ⁻²	Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 on the hands of an infected individual	$\frac{C_{sp} V_s}{A_{inoc}}$	(14) Calculated assuming viral particles spread conically (Supplementary Figure 1)
$t_{\frac{1}{2}^{stl}}$	min	Half-life of SARS-CoV-2 in metal	N (338,35)	(15) Based on SARS-CoV-2 infectivity at 40% RH and 21-23°C
$t_{\frac{1}{2}^{pl}}$	min	Half-life of SARS-CoV-2 in plastic	N (409,39)	(15) Based on SARS-CoV-2 infectivity at 40% RH and 21-23°C
n	min ⁻¹	Exponential decay constant	$\frac{\ln 2}{t_{1/2}}$	Calculated assuming exponential decay
dt	min	Time between surface touching	Uni (1-20) Uni (60-240)	Based on public transport schedules in major cities Contact with surfaces was assumed to happen between 7 am and 11pm
TE_{hm}	%	Transfer efficiency from hand to mucous membranes	N (20,6.3)	(16) Transfer efficiency of viruses (MS2) from hand to saliva

TE_{sh_stl}	%	Transfer efficiency of virus between metal and hand	N (37.4, 16)	(17)Transfer efficiency of viruses (MS2) between steel and hand at 40-65% RH
TE_{sh_pl}	%	Transfer efficiency of virus between plastic and hand	N (79.5,21.2)	(17)Transfer efficiency of viruses (MS2) between plastic and hand at 40-65% RH
LR_s		Log ₁₀ reduction for surface disinfection	Uni (3-4)	(18, 19) Log ₁₀ reduction of coronaviruses on surfaces with ethanol and chlorine disinfection
LR_h		Log ₁₀ reduction for hand disinfection	Point value (4.25)	(20) Log ₁₀ reduction of SARS-CoV with alcohol-based (>75%) sanitizer
$Prev$	%	Prevalence	Point values Low (0.2%) Medium (1%) High (5%)	Medium prevalence based on rates encountered during the peak of the first wave of COVID-19 in major cities(21–25).
$C_{surf(t+1)}$	PFU cm ⁻²	Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 in surface at time = t+1	$\frac{(C_{surf(t)}-C_{hand})e^{-n dt}}{LR_h}$	Calculated
C_{hand}	PFU cm ⁻²	Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 on the hands of susceptible individuals	$\frac{C_{surf} TE_{sh}}{LR_h}$	Calculated
SA	cm ²	Surface area in contact with mucous membranes	Uni (3.9-5.9)	(26) Fractional surface area for partial finger. (27)Average hand surface area
D	PFU	Dose	$C_{hand} SA TE_{sh}$	Calculated
k	PFU ⁻¹	Parameter of exponential dose-response	Tri (0.00107, 0.00246, 0.00680)	(28) Data obtained from QMRAWiki, based on 2 studies (29) (30) using the 0.5 th , 50 th , and 99.5 th percentiles as min, mode, and max
P_{inf}	unitless	Probability of infection	$1 - e^{-kD}$	Calculated (28) Model obtained from QMRAWiki

Distributions and input parameters are abbreviated as follows: N= Normal (mean, SD), Uni =Uniform (min-max), Tri=Triangular (min, mode, max). ReSample refers to random sampling with replacement from the data set of of viral loads reported for patients with COVID-19 in the associated reference.

Inoculation of viruses on hands

We assumed that a cough spread particles conically(14) (Figure 1). The concentration of viruses (virus cm^{-2}) was estimated by calculating the surface area of a circle projected by the cone at a distance x from the mouth (Equations 1 and 2). Distance x was assumed to be a uniform distribution between 5 and 10 cm. The conical opening angle, between $27.5\text{-}35^\circ$, was informed by images of people spreading particles while coughing(12, 13).

$$r = x \tan(a) \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

$$A_{inoc} = \pi r^2 \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

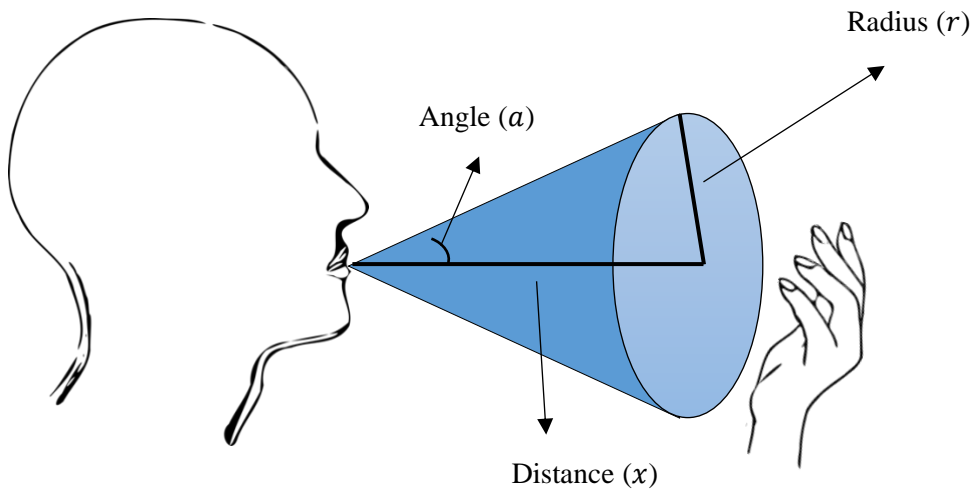


Figure S2. Conical distribution of particles through a cough

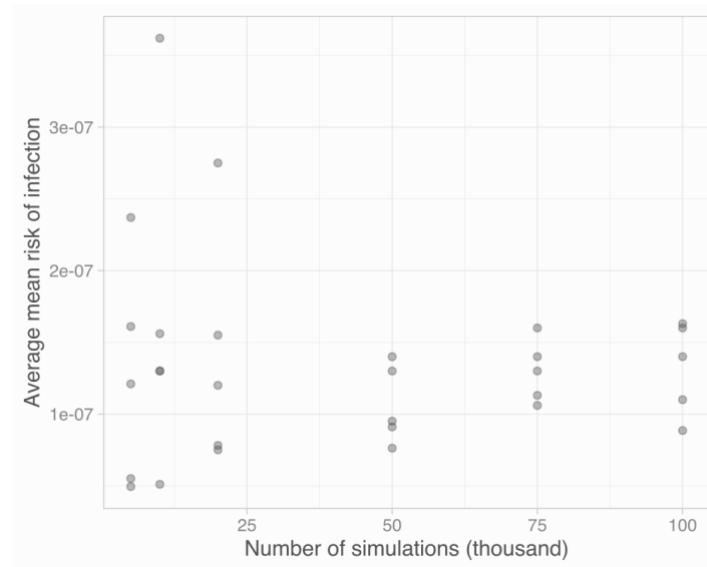


Figure S3. Risk of infection vs number of Monte Carlo simulations. The analyses were run five times for the baseline scenario (Prevalence 1%, no intervention) for 5000, 10000, 20000, 50000, 75000, and 100000 simulations. The average median risk of infection is shown in black circles.

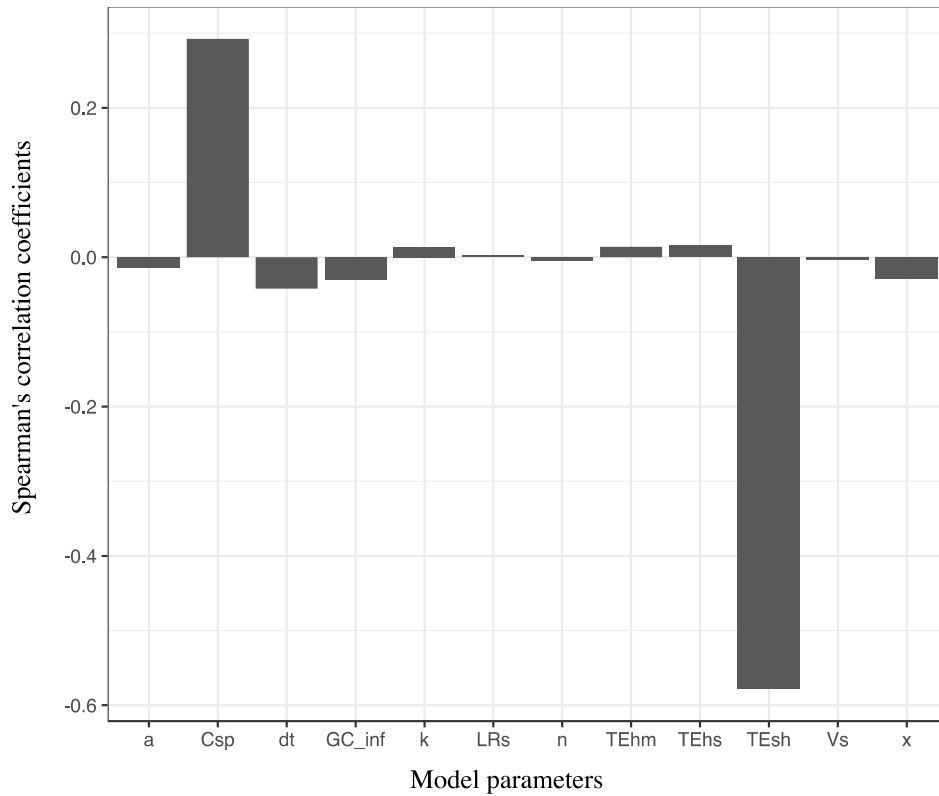


Figure S3. Sensitivity analysis for the “Risks from surface-mediated community transmission” model. Spearman’s correlation coefficients for the parameters used in the community transmission model. Parameters are abbreviated as follows: a = opening angle of right cone, Csp = Concentration of SARS-CoV-2 in the sputum or saliva of patients, dt = contact frequency, GC_inf = genome copies(gc) per Plaque Forming Units (PFU) ratio, k = parameter of the dose-response exponential model, LR_s = Log₁₀ reduction due to surface disinfection, n = exponential decay constant, surf_dis = log₁₀ reduction for surface disinfection, TE_{hm} = transfer efficiency of viruses from hand to mouth, TE_{hs} = transfer efficiency of viruses from hand to surface, TE_{sh} = transfer efficiency of viruses from surface to hand, V_s = volume of saliva expelled per cough, x= distance between hand and mouth.

Table S2. Percentage of Contacts with Estimated Risks Above 10^{-4}

Percentage of Contacts with Estimated Risks Above 1 in 10,000 (%)						
	Low Frequency Contacts			High Frequency Contacts		
	Low Prevalence	Medium Prevalence	High Prevalence	Low Prevalence	Medium Prevalence	High Prevalence
No Intervention	0.8	3.8	17.2	1.4	6.9	27.6
Hand Disinfection (compliance)						
25%	0.6	2.7	12.9	1.1	5.2	21.0
50%	0.4	1.9	9.3	0.8	3.4	14.8
75%	0.2	0.7	5.5	0.3	1.7	6.8
Surface Disinfection (times a day)						
Once (7am)	0.5	2.8	12.9	1.4	6.6	27.0
Once (12pm)	0.5	2.6	12.0	1.4	6.6	26.8
Twice (7am,12pm)	0.4	2.0	9.5	1.4	6.4	26.5

Low prevalence = 0.2% of the population was assumed to have the disease, medium prevalence = 1% of the population, and high Prevalence = 5% of the population.

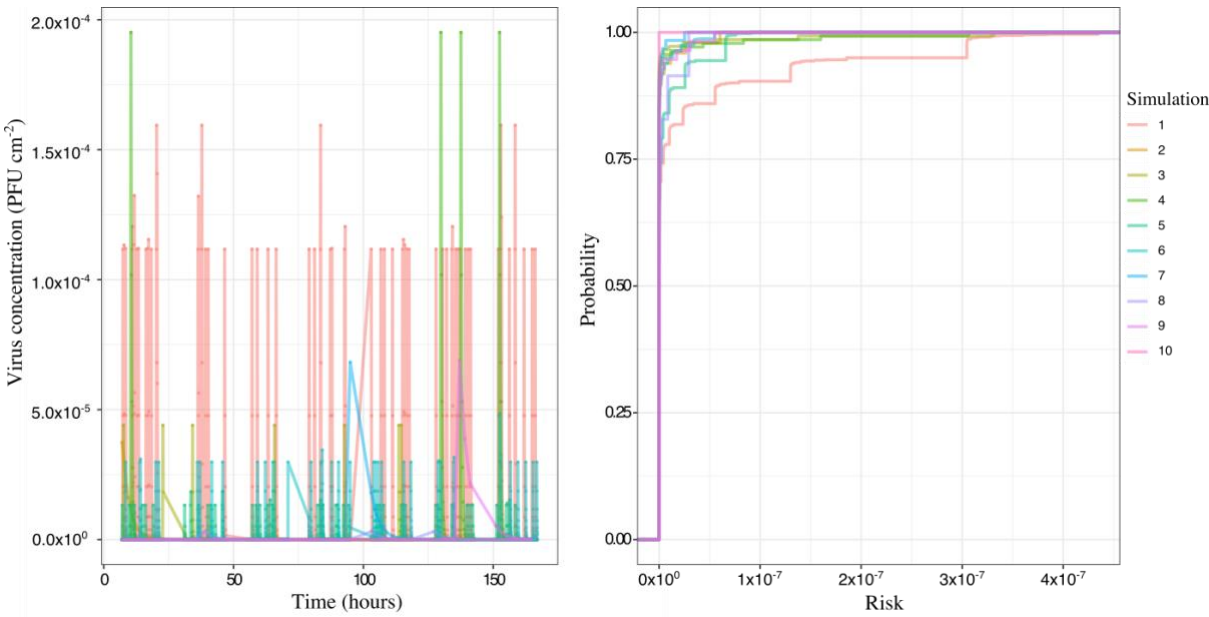


Figure S4. Modeled virus concentration across time for ten simulations (left), cumulative distribution function for risks for the same simulations (right). The community transmission model estimates concentrations across time for seven days (168 hours); inoculation of SARS-CoV-2 into the surface is considered to happen between 7 am and 11 pm.

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